

Response to OA Dated Jan. 9, 2006
Application No.: 10/071,962
Attorney Docket No.: TNX 98-03-01
Customer No.: 26839

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-30 (cancelled).

31. (Previously Presented) An agonist antibody, or a binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to or interacts with the extracellular domain of human G-CSF receptor to stimulate cell proliferation and differentiation.
32. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody, or binding fragment thereof, of claim 31, which dimerizes the receptor or activates phosphorylation of kinases associated with the receptor to stimulate cell proliferation and differentiation.
33. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody or binding fragment of claim 31 or 32, which stimulates proliferation and differentiation of neutrophils or their progenitor cells.
34. Cancelled.
35. Cancelled.
36. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody or binding fragment of claim 31 or 32, wherein the antibody interacts at an epitope between amino acid residues 1-603 (SEQ ID NO:27) of the G-CSF receptor.
37. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody or binding fragment of claim 31 or 32, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
38. (Currently Amended) The agonist antibody or binding fragment of claim 31 or 32, wherein the fragment is ~~Fab, F(ab), F(ab'), F(ab')₂, Fd, Fv, or single chain antibody.~~
39. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody of claim 37, wherein the antibody is mAb163-93 or mAb174-74-11, which are produced by the hybridoma cell lines

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deposited at the ATCC, Manassas, Virginia, under Accession Nos. HB 12699 and HB 12700, respectively.

40. (Previously Presented) A cell line that produces the agonist antibody or binding fragment of claim 31.
41. (Previously Presented) A hybridoma cell line wherein the cell line is HB-12699 or HB-12700 as deposited with the ATCC, Manassas, Virginia.
42. Cancelled.
43. Cancelled.
44. (Withdrawn) The agonist antibody of claim 31, wherein the CDRs of the heavy chain variable region include at least one of the following amino acid sequences:
CDR1: Ser Tyr Ala Met Ser (SEQ ID NO: 21),
CDR2: Gly Ile Ser Ser Gly Gly Ser Tyr Ser Tyr Tyr Pro Gly Thr Leu Lys Gly (SEQ ID NO: 22), or
CDR3: Glu Ala Tyr Asn Asn Tyr Asp Ala Leu Asp Tyr (SEQ ID NO: 23);
or CDRs of the light chain variable region include at least one of the following amino sequences:
CDR1: Arg Ala Ser Ser Ser Val Thr Tyr Val His (SEQ ID NO: 24),
CDR2: Ala Thr Ser Asn Leu Ala Ser (SEQ ID NO: 25), or
CDR3: Gln Gln Trp Thr Ser Asn Pro Phe Thr (SEQ ID NO: 26),
or the CDRs of the heavy chain variable region and the CDRs of the light chain variable region each include at least one of the amino acid sequences listed above for the respective heavy and light chains.

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45. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising at least one agonist antibody according to claim 31 or 32, and a physiologically acceptable carrier, diluent, and/or excipient.
46. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a disease characterized by decreased neutrophil proliferation, comprising administering an effective amount of the agonist antibody of claim 31 to a patient in need of such treatment, wherein the antibody specifically binds to or interacts with human G-CSF receptor to stimulate neutrophil proliferation and differentiation.
47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein the disease is neutropenia.
48. (Currently Amended) An agonist antibody, or binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to or interacts with the extracellular domain of human G-CSF receptor wherein the human G-CSF receptor used to generate said antibody is a native human G-CSF receptor or a mutant thereof comprising substitutions, insertions, or deletions.
49. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody of claim 31, wherein the antibody comprises
SEQ ID NO: 15 to SEQ ID NO 20, or a functional variant of any one of SEQ ID Nos 15 to 20.
50. (Previously Presented) The agonist antibody of claim 48, wherein the framework is human or humanized.